



Rotary Club of Oro Valley, AZ

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE REPORT

June 13, 2024

- **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE 2024-25 (NEW MEMBERS)**

We are very pleased to welcome two new members to the Rotary Club of Oro Valley International Service Committee: Sheree Anderson and Tim Aalbu have both agreed to serve on this Club Service Committee along with Rick, David Stevenson and Larry Day.

- **GUATEMALA TRIP, PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATION**

In April, Rick & Rianne, Linda, Sheree, and Tim completed a very successful Rotary Friendship & Service visit to the Rotary Club of Gualan and the village of El Jute. The results of this trip have already been reported and presented to the Club. Also, thanks to Jane, our story was also published in The Explorer.

Thanks to Jim Nook for organizing the Peace Poles and to Stacey for the Peace Wristbands which were a big hit with the children. Thank you to Tim for organizing the "Garden in the Bag" project and for President Linda & Sheree for working in the dirt with the kids. Sheree was also our "medico" during our visit to the Pediatric ICU in Zacapa.

Having been our third trip to El Jute, Rianne and I want to thank all our intrepid fellow travelers for their patience driving around Guatemala (sometimes lost) and for enduring the Welcome to Gualan Speed Bump ("airborne").

- **NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE EXCHANGE**

The Rotary Club of Denia and the Hospital Clinica Benidorm (HCB) in Denia have selected U of A Public Health Student Brooke McKalip for our first New Generations Service Exchange organized by the ICC USA-Spain. Brooke has completed all the necessary paperwork and obtained the required insurance to travel and intern in Spain.

Rick has conducted several ZOOM meetings with Brooke, Dr. Patricia Rico-Martin and District Youth Chair Angelines Asperilla. In addition, we have met in person with Ana Vasbinder, the Director of the HCB. Brooke will arrive in Spain on July 6th. Rick and Rianne will greet her at the airport in Valencia and host her at their home in Denia for two nights before she starts her internship on Monday, July 8th.

The inbound students, Idoya Pineda Botella and Lucía Morón Ares have both dropped out. *DG Sue Archibald is up-to-date with all communications regarding this subject and also had dinner with Brooke, Kanita, Rick & Rianne on April 6th.*

- EL JUTE SCHOOL LIBRARY (NEEDS MONEY!)

Rick has repeatedly contacted 1) several Clubs in D5500, 2) the ICC USA-Spain members, and 3) the donors from the original Global Grant for El Jute to help fund the School Library Project. Total project cost is \$16,000. This project is below the \$30,000 minimum for a Global Grant. To date, only the Rotary Club of Denia has sent its donation of \$1,000. Rick has recently reached out to more clubs for assistance. A District International Service Grant is being considered. Also, the use of additional funds from the International Service Budget and possibly the OVRF.

- EL JUTE SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

During our visit with the Rotary Club of Gualan, it was decided that in order to assist the students obtain higher education and viable work opportunities in the future, classes in English as a Second Language need to be available in the school in El Jute. With this the aforementioned LIBRARY PROJECT will serve a dual purpose. Since the school already operates in two separate sessions (Morning Group & Afternoon Group) in order to accommodate the number of children in the village, classroom space for a special class is not available. The Library would initially provide this space. For future reference, a part-time ESL instructor (2 days per week) would cost approximately \$2,000 per YEAR.

- NEW BI-LINGUAL GOOBER GUYS

Tim presented a Spanish Language copy of the 4-Way Test Book "GOOBER GUYS" for children to the Rotary Club of Gualan. It was agreed that this book would be a perfect working tool in ESL Classes to promote one of the guiding principles of Rotary and be included in all the nearby school libraries. Reformatting and printing costs need to be discussed by this committee.

- FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE BETWEEN D5500 & SPAIN

This is being coordinated by Rick while he is in Spain. The original article that Rick published in D5500 IMPACT has received a very good response. There are currently nine D5500 Rotarians who have signed up to go on an exchange in June or July 2025. Rick is working out the details with the Rotary Club of Denia and participants from Spain would arrive in Arizona in April 2025 (to avoid heat and rattlesnakes). *DG Sue Archibald is up-to-date with all communications regarding this subject.*

- FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE BETWEEN D5500 & GUATEMALA

During our visit with the Rotary Club of Gualan, President Linda, Sheree, Tim, Rick & Rianne opened a discussion and extended a formal invitation to the members of our Sister Club to visit Oro Valley in October 2025, possibly at the time of the District 5500 Conference. *DG Sue Archibald is up-to-date with all communications regarding this subject.*

- ZACAPA HOSPITAL – PEDIATRIC ICU EQUIPMENT

The main objective is to supply five (5) mechanical pulmonary ventilators and five (5) vital signs monitors, all new, for use in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) of the Regional Hospital of Zacapa, Guatemala. The April 2024 Guatemala Team from Oro Valley also visited this facility with Dr. Edwin Oliva who is also a Rotarian from Gualan. Rick and Edwin are in direct communication with the MINDRAY (Medical Device Manufacturer) representative for Guatemala in hope of obtaining the equipment as a donation.

- D5500 GUATEMALA FORUM (NO CHANGE)

We are trying to create a D5500 Guatemala Forum to link OVRC with RC Tucson Sunset and other District Clubs and non-Rotary Organizations in the Tucson Area doing work in Guatemala. Rick and Eugene Medina (RC Tucson Sunset) continue to have discussions regarding both collaboration in Guatemala and attracting other clubs to International Service. Eugene, PDG Diane Goodyear and Rick are trying to build interest in International Service among the other club members. Pat Patton, D5500 International Chair has also agreed to help support the creation of the Guatemala Forum. *DG Sue Archibald is up-to-date with all communications regarding this subject.*

- BALI SEWING PROJECT (CANCELLED)

Earlier in the Rotary Year, our Club received preliminary information from President Linda regarding this project which was planned for a Global Grant. Since no additional communication has been received from the Club in Bali, Rick has informed Stacey and the BOD that the \$1,000 previously budgeted for this project has been returned to the International Service Fund 2023-24.